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ABSTRACT

This curriculum guide and activity book is designed as an aid for teaching elementary and middle school grades about recycling and composting with earthworms but can be adapted to a variety of situations. The book is organized into three sections that teach the following concepts: (1) introduces earthworms through a series of activities; (2) presents the concept of worms eating garbage in a controlled environment (vermiculture) by means of a story and series of activities; and (3) expands the range of activities for the learner beyond the worm bin experience. Science concepts are integrated with art, reading, mathematics, geography, language, and history. Science subjects related to the earthworm include biology, ecology, zoology, and soil science. Maps illustrating the integration of curriculum content and showing content relationships are included. Each of the 154 activities may stand alone or be utilized with other activities to meet teaching goals. Activities contain the following components: (1) "Wormformation" provides background information; (2) "Materials"; (3) "Directions" provides sequenced steps; (4) "Bonus Activity" enriches and extends the activity; and (5) "Skills Areas." Three appendices contain: (1) charts and record sheets; (2) answers and ideas (teacher pages); and (3) resources and enrichment materials. Teacher pages give record sheets, bulletin board ideas, answers, additional content, and tips for certain activities. Contains 26 references. (LZ)

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